

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q71952

Kenichiro NAKAJIMA

Appln. No.: 10/524,546

Group Art Unit: 1753

Confirmation No.: 1419

Examiner: not yet assigned

Filed: February 14, 2005

For: FILLED SKUTTERUDITE-BASED ALLOY, PRODUCTION METHOD THEREOF
AND THERMOELECTRIC CONVERSION DEVICE FABRICATED USING THE
ALLOY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of a Communication from a Foreign Patent Office (Office Action in corresponding Chinese Patent Application No. 038231743 issued on June 22, 2007) and a translation thereof citing the documents, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

JP-A-2002-026400 cited in the Chinese Office Action was previously submitted in the Information Disclosure Statements filed on February 14, 2005 and November 1, 2005 (with English language abstract and machine translation). Accordingly, a copy of JP-A-2002-026400 is not being submitted herewith. The enclosed Chinese Office Action with its translation constitutes a further concise statement of relevance for this document. In addition, the Chinese Office Action cites U.S. Patent 6,069,312, which was previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 14, 2005.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/524,546

Attorney Docket No.: Q71952

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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